

**The Northern New Mexico Citizens' Advisory Board (NNM CAB) Presentation to
the Environmental Management Advisory Board (EMAB)**

**J.D. Campbell, Ph.D., P.E.
Chair, NNM CAB
September 13, 2007**

NNM CAB Mission [Slide #2]

- At NNM CAB, we are dedicated to increasing public involvement, awareness, and education relating to environmental remediation and management activities at Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL).
- The NNM CAB strives to ensure that decisions about LANL include informed advice from the community, and we openly solicit public participation in all of our deliberations.
- The NNM CAB fosters meaningful opportunities for collaborative dialogue among the diverse multicultural communities of Northern New Mexico, the Department of Energy (DOE), LANL, and the state and federal regulatory agencies.
- It is our goal to make it easier for members of the public to get their voices heard by the decision-makers at DOE.

NNM CAB Organization [Slide #3]

NNM CAB Chair

- J.D. Campbell; Taos, NM

NNM CAB Vice Chair

- Fran Berting; Los Alamos, NM

Deputy Designated Federal Officer

- Christina A. Houston; DOE

Assistant Deputy Designated Federal Officer

- Gaeton Falance; DOE

Liaison Members

- Rich Mayer; Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
- James Bearzi; New Mexico Environment Department (NMED)
- Susan Stiger; Los Alamos National Security
- George Rael; DOE Los Alamos Site Office (LASO)

NNM CAB Subcommittees

- Environmental Monitoring, Surveillance, and Remediation
 - Chair: Pamela Henline; Santa Fe, NM

- Vice Chair: David Church; Albuquerque, NM
- Waste Management
 - Chair: Ralph Phelps; Los Alamos, NM
 - Vice Chair: Larry Rapagnani; Santa Fe, NM

NNM CAB Staff

- Menice B. Santistevan, Executive Director
- Grace Roybal, Office Administrator
- Lorelei Novak, Technical Programs and Outreach
- Eddie Roybal, Sound Technician

The NNM CAB is Comprised of Volunteer Citizens [Slide #4]

- The Board is authorized to have 27 appointed members.
- Board members represent broad geographic, cultural, and ethnic demographics from eight counties and eight Northern Pueblos.
- Currently the NNM CAB has 14 members and 13 nominees.

Recommendations [Slide #5]

During this Fiscal Year, the NNM CAB has forwarded 23 Recommendations to the DOE Los Alamos Site Office.

To view text of recommendations, visit the Board's website:

<http://www.nnmcab.org/recommendations/board-recommendations.htm>

Top Three Issues [Slide #6]

Top Issue 1 – EM Funding and Consent Order Obligations

- The 50% Shortfall in EM funding to meet Consent Order Obligations Projected over Several Years.
- The need for DOE, LANL, and NMED to meet Consent Order Objectives using a Transparent Risk-Informed Decision Process to Evaluate and Select Optimal Life-Cycle Remedies.
- Needed: Use Validated Baseline to Fully Support EM Funding to Meet 2015 Closure Goal.

Top Issue 2 – Closure of Material Disposal Area G and Potential Expansion of Rad Waste Facility in Area G

- Planned: Public Participation Program on Closure Alternatives for MDA-G on April 16, 2008.
- Needed: Explanation of Closure Alternatives for MDA-G Using Risk-Informed Decision Process.

- Needed: Integration of Long-Term Stewardship in Decisions for all LANL Remedies.
- Needed: Public Participation on any Future Expansion of Rad Waste Facility at Area G.

Top Issue 3 – Groundwater Monitoring and Protection at LANL

- Needed: Many New Groundwater Monitoring Wells Across LANL Facility to Produce Reliable Monitoring Network.
- Need to Qualify Data from Non-Representative Samples in Database.
- Need to implement the 17 Recommendations from National Academies of Science Committee Report.
- Need to Better Understand the Rate and Extent of Contaminant Migration from LANL Facilities.

Committees Address Specifics from Top Three Issues [Slide #7]

- Environmental Monitoring, Surveillance, and Remediation Committee reviews National Academies of Sciences (NAS) Recommendations for LANL.
- The major recommendations in the NAS report can be sub-divided into the following four major categories:
 - *More focus on Geochemistry as a way to understand the migration of contaminants.*
 - *Better understanding of Mass Balance – know what goes in, in order to know what will come out.*
 - *Much less Uncertainty – contaminant inventory, pathways for transport and improved GW monitoring.*
 - *More Scientific Peer Review – for accurate monitoring, data quality, and public confidence.*

Committees Address Specifics from Top Three Issues [Slide #8]

- Waste Management Committee plans public educational forum in April 2008 on closure alternatives for LANL's Material Disposal Area (MDEA) G using risk-informed decision process.
- Closure alternatives for discussion may include:
 - *Examples of multi-layer covers; LANL will most likely recommend an engineered cover as remedy.*
 - *Partial insitu vitrification of mixed pre-1970 TRU.*
 - *Excavation of waste, transportation, and disposition at another location (LLW, MLLW, pre-1970 TRU waste).*
 - *Alternatives that combine parts of the above (3).*